effective. No subsidy is provided by the DT & TDC. However, it is ensured that the package are not very costly.

Regular tour packages are also offered for budget tourists by various other State Tourism Corporations etc.

4. The Ministry of Railways have proposed to run a special tourist train of ordinary Sleeper Class Coaches on a pre-determined schedule. There will be multiple boarding points from where the tourist can board the train and the tourists will be taken to various important places of tourist and historical importance. The Indian Railways, Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has been entrusted with the formulation of comprehensive package based on the market survey in consultation with the various reputed Tour Operators/Travel Agents and the State Tourism Departments.

Economic benefits of tourism

2217. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study to assess the economic benefits of tourism in Tamil Nadu and other States is being undertaken;

(b) if so, the progress made thereon; and

(c) by when it will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKACHOWDHURY). (a) Astudy to assess the economic benefits of tourism in the States of Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Orissa and Maharashtra was assigned to a consulting agency during the month of November. 2003.

(b) and (c) The consulting agency has since submitted the draft report which have been sent to the concerned State Governments for their comments which are awaited.

Irrigation Projects under AIBP

2218. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of last mile irrigation projects completed under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) as on 31st March, 2004, State-wise;

(b) the total financial assistance provided/extended for these projects under the scheme;

(c) the total cultivable land brought under irrigation by the completion of these projects;

(d) the total number of irrigation projects which are eligible under the scheme, State-wise;

(e) the number of projects which have been selected under the scheme as on 31st March, 2004; and

(f) what were the targets set and budgetary allocations made during 2003-04 under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The state-wise details of irrigation projects completed under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) upto 31st March, 2004 are given in the Statement *(See* below).

(b) and (c) The Central Loan Assistance (CLA) released to these projects upto March, 2004 is Rs. 996.28 crore and an irrigation potential of 588.444 thousand hectare has been created by completion of these projects.

(d)As per existing norms of AIBP all ongoing approved major & medium irrigation projects, which are in advanced stage of completion are eligible under this programme.

(e)Since inception of AIBP, 181 major/medium irrigation projects have been included under this programme.

(f) During 2003-04, there was a budget provision of Rs. 2,800 crore under AIBP against which an amount 3128.5009 crore has been released as CLA.

Statement

Irrigation Projects completed under AIBP

Sl.No.	State	Number of Projects Completed
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	1

S.No.	State	Number of Projects Completed
4.	Chhattisgarh	1
5.	Haryana	1
6.	Jharkhand	2
7.	Gujarat	9
8.	Karnataka	1
9.	Madhya Pradesh	3
10.	Rajasthan	2
11.	Punjab	1
12.	Uttar Pradesh	5
13.	West Bengal	1
	Total	29

Clearance of irrigation schemes of A.P.

2219. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take immediate action to clear the crucial irrigation schemes of Andhra Pradesh, namely, Janjhavathi Project, Velingonda Project and Hyderabad Water Supply and Sanitation Project as these are pending clearance for several years,

(b) if so, the details of action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The project proposals of Janjhavathi Project, Velingonda Project and Hyderabad Water Supply and Sanitation Project were examined in the Central Water Commission and comments were sent to the State Government for compliance. The clearance of irrigation project depends upon the promptness with which the State Government complies with the observations of the Central appraising agencies.